

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 00417 201300Z

42

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

----- 050901

O 201145Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3411

S E C R E T JIDDA 0417

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, MARR, SA, EG, US

SUBJECT: TRAINING OF EGYPTIANS IN SAUDI F-5 PROGRAM

REF STATE 13811

1. WE ARE REITERATING INSTRUCTIONS TO CHUSMTM THAT THERE WILL BE NO REPEAT NO US PARTICIPATION OF ANY KIND, DIRECT OR INDIRECT, EITHER BY USAF OR NORTHROP CONTRACT PERSONNEL IN TRAINING OF EGYPTIAN PERSONNEL.

2. IN SPITE OF THE OBVIOUS URGENCY OF THIS MATTER, WE DO NOT THINK THAT WE SHOULD RAISE THE MATTER AGAIN WITH PRINCE SULTAN UNTIL ALL EFFORTS HAVE BEEN EXHAUSTED WITH THE EGYPTIANS TO TERMINATE THE PROGRAM. PRINCE SULTAN UNDERSTOOD THE ARGUMENTS PUT FORWARD BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON FOR STOPPING THE TRAINING BUT WAS FIRM IN HIS POSITION THAT IF THE PROGRAM IS TO BE ENDED IT MUST BE DONE BY THE GOE. HE CLEARLY DOES NOT WISH TO BEAR THE ONUS FOR TERMINATION IN CIRCUMSTANCES WHERE THE EGYPTIAN PILOTS AND TECHNICIANS RETURNING TO EGYPT WOULD SAY THAT THEIR TRAINING WAS CUT SHORT BECAUSE OF SAUDI ARABIAN KNUCKLING UNDER TO THE AMERICANS. AT THE SAME TIME, WE BELIEVE THAT HE WILL RESPOND QUICKLY TO AN EGYPTIAN INITIATIVE OR SUGGESTION THAT THE TRAINING BE CUT SHORT.

3. ASIDE FROM THE FOREGOING, A PRACTICAL DIFFICULTY IN OUR RAISING THE MATTER IS THE UNAVAILABILITY OF PRINCE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 JIDDA 00417 201300Z

SULTAN. HE IS OFF WITH THE KING IN THE DESERT ON AN IN-

SPECTION/HUNTING TRIP AND IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY DIFFICULT TO ARRANGE A MEETING IN THE NEAR FUTURE. VICE MINDEF PRINCE TURKI IS UNLIKELY TO GIVE INSTRUCTIONS TO END THE PROGRAM WITHOUT CLEARANCE FROM SULTAN WHICH WOULD PROBABLY TAKE SOME TIME. IF IN SPITE OF THE FOREGOING THE DEPT BELIEVES THAT WE MUST RAISE THIS MATTER WITH THE SAG WE WOULD PROPOSE TO DO IT THROUGH FONMIN PRINCE SAUD UPON HIS RETURN FROM GERMANY ABOUT JAN 25. PRINCE SAUD WILL ALSO APPRECIATE THE POLITICAL PITFALLS IN CONTINUING THE PROGRAM AND, THOUGH PRINCE SULTAN MIGHT NOT APPRECIATE OUR BRINGING THE FOREIGN MINISTER INTO THIS MATTER, WE BELIEVE THAT SAUD CAN GET US A RESPONSE OF SOME SHORT IN FAIRLY SHORT ORDER.

4. AS A TACTICAL MATTER IN APPROACHING THE EGYPTIANS, IT OCCURS TO US THAT WE MIGHT SUGGEST TO PRESIDENT SADAT THAT HE END THE PROGRAM ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE BASIC OBJECTIVES OF THE TRAINING HAVE BEEN COMPLETED IN THAT EGYPTIAN PILOTS HAVE FAMILIARIZED THEMSELVES WITH THE F-5 AND THAT THERE IS NOTHING TO BE GAINED BY CONTINUING TO DIVERT SKILLED PILOTS AND TECHNICIANS FROM THEIR DUTIES UNTIL A PROGRAM OF US ASSISTANCE BECOMES IMMINENT. HE COULD IN EFFECT SAY THAT THZ EGYPTIANS DIDN'T REQUIRE ALL THE TIME THE SAUDIS HAD PROGRAMMED FOR THEM IN ORDER TO COMPLETE THEIR ASSIGNMENTS. CERTAINLY TRANSPARENT BUT IF, AS WE SUSPECT, FACE IS INVOLVED IT MIGHT HELP US OUT OF OUR DILEMMA.

5. SUGGEST THE DEPT PASS THIS MESSAGE TO EMBASSY CAIRO.
PORTER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PERSONNEL TRAINING, MILITARY PERSONNEL, AIRCRAFT PILOTS, CAT-C
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 20 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976JIDDA00417
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: P840093-1903
From: JIDDA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760141/aaaabkok.tel
Line Count: 89
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 76 STATE 13811
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 08 JUN 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <08 JUN 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <05 OCT 2004 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TRAINING OF EGYPTIANS IN SAUDI F-5 PROGRAM
TAGS: MASS, MARR, SA, EG, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006